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To: Laurie Cranmer, Patent Examiner **From:** Dave Burns

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David Burns
1608 San Anselmo Ave.
San Anselmo, CA 94960
(415) 578-3413 (office)
(415) 532-9400 (mobile)
(415) 236-6171 (fax)
groove24@gmail.com

DAVE BURNS

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January 8, 2009
Laurie Cranmer
Patent Examiner
USPTO
Alexandria, VA.
Fax: 571,273.8300

Dear Ms. Cranmer,

This letter is to summarize our conversation regarding examiner's rejection of applicant's U.S. patent application 10/749,065 in light of prior art by Hartigan and Fligsten.

Examiner cites item 16a in the Hartigan drawings as a rigidifying strip. In the Hartigan patent, 16a is listed as a flexible strap.

The function of applicant's rigidifying strip is to maintain the beneficial shape of the restraint when the leading edge of the device is connected with its single attachment device to existing seat belt hardware.

Based on the foregoing, applicant is of the opinion his application has defined patentable subject matter over the prior art of record.

Sincerely,

Dave Burns

OFFICE
1608 San Anselmo Avenue
San Anselmo, CA 94960

PHONE
415.578.3413

FAX
415.236.6171

EMAIL
groove24@gmail.com